

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 COME-00 STR-08 USIA-12 PRS-01

TRSE-00 L-03 RSC-01 /048 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ CBA/ BP: MMBOVA: VJW

3/29/73 EXT 22181

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COMMERCE - MS. NOBLE

STR - MR. POMERANZ

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R 021958 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, US, KS

SUBJ: SOUTH KOREAN FILM RESTRICTIONS

REF: (A) SEOUL 882 OF FEBRUARY 14, L973; (B) SEOUL 2374
OF MAY 8, 1970

1. THE MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MPAA)
HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT KOREAN RESTRICTIONS ON THE
IMPORT OF FOREIGN MOTION PICTURE FILMS. BASICALLY,
RESTRICTIONS CONSIST OF (1) RELATIVELY LOW YEARLY IMPORT
QUOTA OF FOREIGN FILMS AND (2) SEEMINGLY DISCRIMINATORY
SYSTEM FOR THE ALLOCATION OF IMPORT LICENSES.

2. AS REPORTED REFTEL (A) IMPORT QUOTA FOR 1973 IS 47
FILMS. DEPT UNDERSTANDS KOREAN MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND
PUBLIC INFORMATION (MCPI) SETS YEARLY QUOTAS. MPAA IS
CONCERNED WITH BOTH EXISTENCE AND SIZE OF QUOTA BUT HAS
INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE SATISFIED IF 100 LICENSES WERE
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ISSUED PER YEAR FOR IMPORT OF U. S. FILMS. HOWEVER, WHEN IN MAY OF 1970 (SEE REFTEL B) AT REQUEST OF MPAA, EMBASSY DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF RAISING NUMBER OF LICENSES TO THIS AMOUNT WITH KOREAN MCPI, MINISTRY REPLIED THAT REQUEST APPEARED EXCESSIVE IN VIEW FACT KOREA HAD IMPORTED ANNUALLY ONLY 60 FILMS OR LESS DURING PREVIOUS THREE YEARS.

3. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE, PROVISION IN

KOREAN MOTION PICTURE LAW RELATINAM PROVIDED DR. ANDREESCU STAYED ONLY BRIEF PERIOD IN CARACAS.

4. IF FOREGOING ARRANGEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO DR. ANDREESCU, DEPARTMENT WILLOBTAIN BUCHAREST - NEW YORK CITY - BUCHAREST TICKETS FROM PAN AM AND FORWARD TO EMBASSY BY POUCH FOR PERSONAL DELIVERY TO HER. CARACAS TICKET WILL BE PROVIDED TO HER HERE. VENEZUELAN VISA ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE HANDLED AFTER ARRIVAL IN U. S. WE WOULD SUGGEST SHE PLAN ARRIVAL DURING WEEK OF APRIL 23. ADVISE SOONEST. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE060253
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MMBOVA: VJW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730430/aaaahgpn.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 SEOUL 882 OF FEBRUARY 14, L973, 73 SEOUL 2374, OF MAY 8, 1970
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Nov-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971112
Subject: SOUTH KOREAN FILM RESTRICTIONS
TAGS: ETRD, KS, US
To: SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005